

Weekly report for week ending January 4, 2013.

<b>Office Name ORA</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Press Interest/Coverage</b>
Congressional/Intergovernmental	Sen. Levin Inquiry on S.S. Badger	No press.
	Sen. Levin Inquiry on CR 595	No press.
IEO	Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Meeting	No press.
	Tribal Environmental Program Management (TEPM) Conference	No press.
	FY 2013-2015 Tribal Environmental Agreements (TEAs)	No press.
OIA	Passport Acceptance Recertification	No press.
OECA	Interstate 69 Section 5 Project in Indiana	Possible press. Indiana media may have some interest in EPA comments.

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## **ORA Weekly Report**

**Sen. Levin Inquiry on S.S. Badger:** On December 31, congressional and ORC staff responded to an inquiry from Sen. Levin's office about the statutory requirements for public comment periods and agency review times under the Clean Water Act.

**Sen. Levin Inquiry on CR 595:** On January 2, congressional and WD staff responded to an inquiry for an update on CR 595 from Sen. Levin's office.

**Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Meeting:** The RTOC meeting is scheduled for February 14, in Chicago. A briefing with the RA will be scheduled in advance of the meeting.

**Tribal Environmental Program Management (TEPM) Conference:** The TEPM Conference will be held in R5 offices on February 12-14. The draft agenda topics include, grants management, ceded territories, climate change adaptation, and breakout sessions on tracks including water, land, multi-media issues, and funding opportunities. The conference will offer training sessions on Storet, GAP On-Line, and the Great Lakes Accountability System.

**FY 2013-2015 Tribal Environmental Agreements (TEAs):** The IEO is working toward the completion of FY 2013-2015 TEAs by the end of January and anticipates having more than 30 complete and final.

**Passport Acceptance Recertification:** On December 28, the OIA received notification from the State Department that Jesse McDaniel and Mark Elster need to be recertified as Passport Acceptance Agents. There is currently a waiting list for the required renewal course. As soon as it becomes available, recertification will be completed.

**Interstate 69 Section 5 Project in Indiana:** On January 2, EPA issued its comments on this Tier 2 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). EPA rated the project a modest "Environmental Concerns". EPA raised concerns about stormwater management, hazardous waste sites, wetlands, streams, and mitigation. EPA also suggested a minor revision to the proposed preferred alternative to reduce impacts. The Final EIS for Section 5 is expected to be issued for public comment this spring. This project is in SCOUT as a high visibility NEPA project.